

Appl. No. 10/727,316
Reply to Office action of January 24, 2005

Remarks

The examiner has indicated that all of the claims, except for claim 27, are either allowed or could be allowed if no longer depending from a rejected base claim.

As discussed with examiner Davis during a telephonic interview on April 14, 2005 with the undersigned representative, applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of claim 27 is in error. In paragraph 2, the examiner stated that claim 27 is anticipated by Bates (U.S. 2002/0157896). However, the reasoning that followed made reference to several elements not found in Bates. Examiner Davis acknowledged during the interview that references were to another patent (West) that was not specifically cited in the rejection, and that the rejection was erroneous. She suggested filing this response and requesting withdrawal of the rejection.

The amendments to claim 27 are intended to clarify the invention and are not being made in response to a rejection. It is respectfully submitted that the claim is allowable over the prior art of record for at least the reason that it calls for an accessory holder attached to extending from a connector on a side, and in a direction, opposite of the name tag, the accessory holder and name tag thereby being disposed on opposite sides of the central connector.

In preparing the claim list for this paper, it was discovered that a significant portion of claim 10 in the previously filed amendment had been accidentally deleted when amending it to change its dependency from claim 7 to claim 21. This deletion had not been indicated, but it was plain from reading the claim that a substantial portion of it was missing. The amendment to claim 10 in this paper restores it to its original (as filed) state, but with one change: it now depends from claim 21 instead of claim 7.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of the final rejection of claim 27. It is submitted that the application is now in allowable form. Please telephone the undersigned representative should he be of any assistance in connection with the reconsideration.

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Please charge deposit account no. 13-4900 of Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr, P.C. any additional fees associated with this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

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